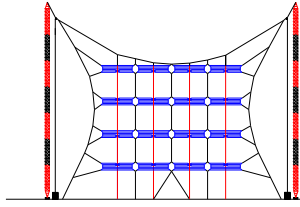


GABBIE'S SAIPAN SIFTINGS



Dear Friends,

We are glad to say that we are living on a tropical island, after hearing of hail storms, snow, ice and lots of cold wind and rain in NZ!!

Our friends, John & Ruth Stanley have gone after their 8 week stay. Owen really enjoyed working with them. The biggest project he was involved in with them was the modification of 2 transmitters that will allow digital broadcasting - very high quality audio - using the DRM technique. Our tests included live broadcasting to Russia, Japan, and China, and the listeners - shortwave listening enthusiasts - were in contact with us via the internet as we were broadcasting! They were able to send us audio files so we could hear what we sounded like, and also graphic images of the received signals, showing us the strength of our signals! It was amazing to be a part of the testing. Owen operated the computers that control this "mode" of operation, learned how to adjust the software and the transmitters to get the best possible signal out, depending on what frequencies we used. While inexpensive DRM radios are not yet on the market, India, Russia and China are planning to incorporate DRM into their own broadcast systems. So, we will be ready when the time comes to broadcast high quality audio!

Owen has been back on the towers, changing out rusted bolts as time and weather permit. He has been involved in a number of other projects, trying to learn as much as he can about the transmitters, and other systems, as in August, the Brubakers retire, and will be leaving Saipan. This will leave us an engineer short, so Owen will have more responsibilities. Our maintenance supervisor is on furlough at present, too, so Owen is filling his shoes as well. We are happy that Neils Jensen has arrived, and this is good news for Irene, as Neils' main task is to maintain the computers and our network. Irene has been showing him the intricacies of our play out software, and some of the challenges we have with this software! As time allows, Neils will be spending some time on the towers with Owen & Caleb, too. As previously mentioned Irene's co-worker, Bey, went back to the states to care for her mother. Well, she came back a couple of weeks ago, to start the packing up process. It is good to have her here, but we know their time here is short. Irene continues to manage the 3 language blocks, and sees that the programs are ready for broadcast.

We have yet another short termer! Dave is from Texas, an electrical engineering student, and is

here for our summer. He is involved with transmitter testing, some modifications to the broadcast systems, and anything else that comes up. Owen has worked on some of the projects with him.

We had the opportunity to work along side two Wriggers from the Trans World Radio station on Guam. Our China antenna needed some work done on it, and as we are short staffed, they offered to come over and help us. We had a great time of fellowship and fun with them as we worked together. We completed the change-out of the steel counterweight rods, as well.

In March, we attended "Marriage Encounter", a world-wide organization that promotes marriage and communication. It was an interesting and challenging time as we spent the weekend with 24 other couples in class room sessions, and then spent time with our spouse as we talked over what we had learnt.

As it is our summer, Irene isn't helping out at the school on Fridays now, but is still volunteering at the hospital. Please continue to pray for our friend Yulia, as she grows in her Christian walk as a single mum.

Letter from Vietnam

"I thank God for your ministry and faithfulness in bringing God's living Word to the Vietnamese people. Countless numbers of people in remote areas have received God's gift of eternal life through your broadcasts. I too have been nurtured and encouraged through your daily teaching. May God shed His grace abundantly upon you, God's servants, who serve Him faithfully and are used mightily by Him."

"Thank you for the Bible study materials you sent. May God richly bless you in your work so that more and more people hear the Good News. Your ministry is helping me and many others grow in their faith." Thank you, FEBC, for the hours of daily broadcasts that provide food to our souls and peace to our hearts.

And from the Ukraine...

"It is difficult for me to preach the gospel. I do not have much education, and for the most part I am trying to preach by living a Christ-like life. Often people talk to me, confiding in me, and I listen and pray for them. And when they ask questions, I tell them to listen to FEBC. Many do. I know that dozens of people in our village are your listeners. You are changing hearts, friends, and I am grateful to God for you."

Letters like these make our service for Him well and truly worthwhile. And, you are a part of this too! We continue to be thankful for each one of you as you support us and enable us to be here on Saipan.

Aaron & Jess, and Caleb are doing well. We are planning on returning to NZ in December to attend Caleb's graduation, having Christmas (our first Christmas home since 1990!) and then deputation in NZ!

Owen Irene

June 2009